

A short Gospel reflection Luke 13:22-30

“Sir, will there be only a few saved?” Today’s Gospel witnesses Jesus’ response to the question which has just been put to him. To be saved, to be welcomed into the presence of God and to share in heavenly bliss for all eternity, we must try our best, Jesus says, ‘to enter by the narrow door.’ The narrow door is the only door which allows entrance to the self which is unencumbered by the heavy trappings of worldly power and greed; the self which has got rid of the dead weight of selfish pleasure. To encounter God fully after death, we must encounter Him fully in life, and to encounter God fully in life we must lay ourselves bare before Him. Humbly and gratefully, we must lay our true soul–selves bare before His gaze, all falseness gone, eyes, heart, soul, open to His love and mercy and forgiveness.

And who shall be first to pass through the narrow door? Scripture makes it clear that it is the poor in spirit, the gentle, the kind and the compassionate who shall be first through the narrow door; those of us pared back to our true soul–selves, those of us content to walk humbly with Jesus, always learning from his loving ways.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: We pray that the men who sense that the Lord is calling them to serve the Church as priests of the diocese will respond positively to the Response to our Psalm this weekend: "Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News!"

Parishes across Ireland are invited to unite in a Day of Prayer and Reflection for Gaza today Sunday, 24th August 2025. There will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 12.30pm Mass until Devotions at 6.00pm here at St Eugene’s Cathedral. All are invited to take part in 24 hours of prayer and reflection. Whether as a parish or in the quiet of your own home, please consider:

- Attending Mass and offering it for peace in Gaza
- Spending time in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament
- Praying the Rosary for peace and justice
- Lighting a candle at home or in your parish church
- Making a small personal sacrifice or act of penance
- Reaching out to your political representatives to advocate for justice and humanitarian aid
- Supporting trusted aid organisations bringing relief to Gaza

To celebrate the Canonisation of Carlo Acutis there will be veneration of Carlos relic, gifted to St. Eugene’s Cathedral by his mother, from 3.00pm to 6.30 pm on Sunday 7th September. During the time of Veneration, the Rosary, which was a very important prayer in Carlo’s life, will be prayed each hour. At 7.00pm Bishop Donal Mc Keown will celebrate Mass in thanksgiving for Carlos’ Canonisation. Everyone is welcome to this time of Prayer and Celebration.

“Bishop Daly - A Man for all Seasons” - 2025 Exhibition celebrates the life, influence, work and legacy of Bishop Edward Daly continues until 28th August. Exhibition times are Monday - Saturday from 10.30am to 4.00pm in the Conference Room above the Sacristy. Everyone is welcome.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Ann Marie Smith
William (Willie) Doherty
Martin Gillespie**

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**George McCafferty
Nellie Kerlin
John Feeney
Majella Quigley
Margaret Lewis
Sheila Lewis
John J Lewis**

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God’s family:

**Zoie Kathleen Kerry Moran
Cillian Patrick Rieger**

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate **Kerri Dunleavy** and **Christopher Blackburn**

&

Aoibheann Biddle and **Sebastian Shaw**
who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

Collection

Weekly Collection: £5,130

Parish Development: £968

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Hungry Children: £5

Gaza Appeal: £500

Cathedral Funds: £100

Mary’s Meals: £25, £250

SVdP: £25

Water Aid: £20, £10, £40

Sight Savers: £15, £30

Smile Train: £15, £250, £30

Readers for 30th /31st August

06.15 pm Roisin Rice Cutter

07.30 pm Stephen Orr / Karl Orr

09.30 am Kate Doherty

11.00 am Claire O’Kane / Uju A

12.30 pm Sophia Mason

07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Cathedral Parking Notice - Please be advised that parking at the Cathedral is restricted for Cathedral use only. Due to limited space, and to ensure safety, accessibility, and availability for those attending Mass, events, and pastoral appointments, we kindly ask that parking be reserved for Cathedral-related activities only.

This change also supports our efforts to accommodate:

- Elderly and disabled visitors who require closer access
- Clergy and staff during working hours
- Funerals, weddings, and other scheduled services
- Deliveries and essential maintenance access

We understand this may cause inconvenience, and we are grateful for your understanding and cooperation as we aim to serve our Parish as best we can.

Lunchtime Concert - Grúpa Ceoil Beag, a group of young traditional Irish music students will be performing in The Cathedral Hall on Saturday 20th September at 1.00pm. Entry is free and everyone is welcome. With thanks to Derry City & Strabane District Council for supporting this event.

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Masters in Catholic School Leadership: The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. If you are interested in registering for the Masters in September 2025 or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

SPARK: A weekend of fun, faith and friendship for 12-16 year olds. Do you know a young person who would like to build their faith and make new friends? Spark is a weekend experience which follows core themes from YouCat, as well as stories of role models such as Blessed Carlo Acutis and Sr. Clare Crockett, to help young people learn about their faith, while making friends and hopefully having a bit of fun in the process! Runs from 12th -14th September in Termonbacca Carmelite Retreat Centre, Derry. To book or for more information text or WhatsApp Brendan on +353 86 8067973 or Vivienne on +44 7935 007351. Cost is €80/£70 per person (to cover food and board). places are limited and will be allocated on a first come basis.

Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops – the following dates are now available: September 26th/27th, October 17th/18th, November 7th/8th. Book online at www.accordni.com. Please note that these courses are in person and not virtual.

Buncrana Parish Garden Fête - The Annual Buncrana Parish Garden Fete will take place this afternoon (24th August) in the grounds of Scoil Mhuire, Buncrana from 3pm-6pm. A fun family day with Bouncy Castles, Children's Races, Quad Train ride, Mini-Digger Challenges, Tractor Reversing Competition, Rickety Wheel, Bingo, Jiving Competition, Ice-Cream van, Hot Food Van, Dog Show and much more! Come along and enjoy a lovely afternoon. Our Parish Mega Draw will take place on the day with a top prize of €50,000. Tickets are €100 available on the day (Cash only).

St Eugene's Cathedral is monitored by CCTV cameras and by two live streaming cameras. Live streaming can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv, www.watchmenmedia or the parish website. The Diocese of Derry Privacy Notice is displayed on the parish website and Cathedral notice board, or you may obtain a copy from the Parish Office.

Safeguarding Notice: If you have any concerns with regard to the Safeguarding of children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact Marie Gormley, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) at 07596500793 or at mariegormley@derrydiocese.org or contact the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) **101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.**